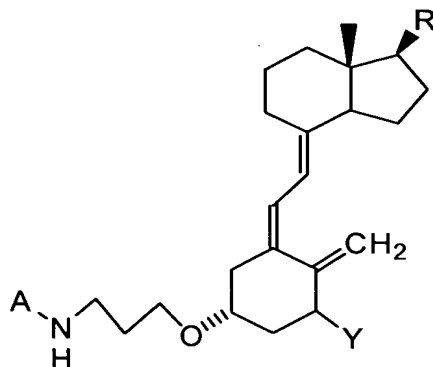


# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The preparation of vitamin D compounds of formula (I) with a label attached to a spacer group in the 3 position is disclosed.



In the above formula (I), O represents the oxygen atom of an ether group; Y represents hydrogen or hydroxy; A represents a label such as biotin, digoxigenin, or another vitamin D group; R represents a substituted hydrocarbon side-group of vitamin D or a vitamin D metabolite. Also disclosed is a method of measuring 25-hydroxy vitamin D metabolite and a  $1\alpha,25$ -dihydroxy vitamin D metabolite in a sample.